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Zita Vetter, grandmother of five-year-old homicide victim Jonathan Vetter, leaves the Saskatoon Funeral Home on Thursday. She says her grandson was a "fearless" boy who will be missed dearly. Inset: A memorial card for Jonathan. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Young homicide victim laid to rest

Eulogy for 'Little Evel Knievel.' Mother to undergo mental health assessment after being charged with murder

MORGAN MODJESKI
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A five-year-old homicide victim was remembered as "fearless" as he was mourned by family, friends and many other Saskatoon residents on Thursday.

About 200 people attended Jonathan Vetter's funeral. His grandmother, Zita Vetter, told the mourners that the boy was courageous.

"At the exhibition, no ride was too scary for him," she said at the Saskatoon Funeral Home, referring to him later as a "little Evel Knievel" who enjoyed video games, driving John Deere tractors and hide-and-seek.

"Wearing a fresh bruise was normal for him, as he could be somewhat clumsy. He was tough, though," she added during the service.

"With a shake and a rub on his head, he was off and running again. He would never really cry."

Jonathan was found dead by Saskatoon police officers early on Jan. 4 at a house on the 400-block of Avenue R South, after they were called to the home about an injury. This week, his mother, 35-year-old Kellie Johnson, was charged with first-degree murder in his death.

Earlier on Thursday, Johnson appeared in provincial court via video. Senior Crown prosecutor Dan Dahl and Johnson's lawyer, Leslie Sullivan, agreed to have her undergo a 30-day assessment at a psychiatric hospital in North Battleford.

"Obviously in a case of this nature, the first concern everybody has is with respect to the mental health of the individual charged," Sullivan said outside Saskatoon's provincial courthouse.

"The purpose of the assessment is two-fold. The first has to deal with her mental-health issues in general, (and) her mental-health issues specific to this particular charge."

Sullivan said Johnson is taking the matter "one day at a time," though she wouldn't comment on whether her client has mental-health problems.

"I actually can't address that," Sullivan said. "That's one of the reasons why she's going to the hospital — so the psychiatrist can take a look and give us a proper report."

Johnson is scheduled to be back in court on Feb. 6.

Despite his young age, Jonathan's smart and eager nature was said by his grandmother to have had an impact on many people.

"Although you had a short life on Earth, dear Jonathan," she said at the funeral, "you touched so many hearts."

In memory of Jonathan, his family is asking the public to "please give a hug to a child in your life to let them know they are loved."

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be made to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan games princealbertwinter 2014
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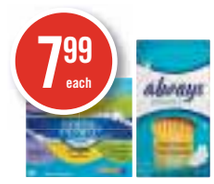

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Mass immunization may be last shot for flu shot

Saturday. Supply to be down to 1,500 by the time clinic opens

MORGAN MODJESKI
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The Saskatoon Health Region (SHR) is nearing the end of its supply of flu vaccine.

"On Saturday, we are anticipating that we will use all of the vaccine," said Karen Grauer, manager of disease control and public health with the SHR.

"So we are wanting to notify those individuals who had booked an appointment that we may not have vaccine available for them next week."

By Saturday, the health region expects to be down to 1,500 doses. It's predicting the remaining shots will be distributed at a mass-immunization clinic scheduled for the same day.

"That's what we are anticipating based on the phone calls that we're getting, and we're definitely staffed for that," said Grauer, noting that about 20 nurses will be on hand to immunize between 12 and 15 people an hour.

The clinic, originally scheduled at the West Winds Primary Health Centre, has been moved to a larger location at the Therapies Gym at Saskatoon City Hospital to accommodate what officials are predicting will be a "mad dash."

Get there early

The clinic will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with free parking for those getting immunized.

Members of the public who had made appointments to get flu shots next week will now be asked to get their shots at Saturday's clinic — which will be the last time the SHR offers the vaccinations before meeting with the province on Monday to assess the supply.

"The ministry, right now, is working at securing more supplies," said Grauer.

"But until they advise us, we're going on the assumption that what we've got is the vaccine that we have."

Horrific 10-vehicle pileup sends several to hospital but claims no lives

An overpass on northbound Highway 11, just northwest of Regina, became the scene of a colossal pileup Thursday morning when 10 vehicles smashed into each other in foggy conditions. The aftermath saw some vehicles on top of others on the bridge near the town of Lumsden. Though several people were injured, RCMP said none were in life-threatening condition. COURTESY MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

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N.B. train derailment. Investigators find cracked wheel, broken rail at site

A preliminary investigation into a fiery train derailment in New Brunswick has found a cracked wheel and broken rail at the site but it's too early to say what caused the train to leave the tracks, a senior investigator with the Transportation Safety Board said Thursday.

Guy Laporte said he has had limited access to the scene of the wreckage because of a fire that has been burning since Tuesday night. The CN freight train was carrying crude oil and liquefied petroleum gas when it derailed in Wapske.

CN spokesman Jim Feeny said the company believes a wheel and axle failure was the cause of the derailment based on its preliminary investigation, but Laporte said it's premature to determine that.

Derailed train cars burn near Plaster Rock, N.B., on Wednesday. TOM BATEMAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"It is too early to say what the cause is and contributing factors of this accident might be," Laporte told a news conference Thursday in the village of Plaster Rock, near the derailment site.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

N.J. governor apologizes to mayor for his staff's 'stupidity'

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, second left, arrives at Fort Lee, N.J., where he travelled to apologize in person to Mayor Mark Sokolich. Moving quickly to contain a widening political scandal, Christie fired one of his top aides Thursday and apologized repeatedly for the "abject stupidity" of his staff, insisting he had no idea anyone around him had engineered traffic jams to get even with a Democratic mayor. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New rule. Companies must report fracking chemicals discharged into ocean

Oil and gas companies that are fracking off the Southern California coast must report chemicals discharged into the ocean under a new rule released Thursday by federal environmental regulators.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published the requirement in the federal register, and it will become effective March 1.

The move comes after a series of stories last year revealed at least a dozen offshore frack jobs in the Santa Barbara Channel, and more than 200 in nearshore waters overseen by the state of California.

Hydraulic fracturing, which involves pumping huge amounts of sand, water and chemicals deep underground to release oil, was conducted with no separate environmental analysis of the fracking chemicals on the sea surroundings, and little or no oversight.

"This requirement was added in response to recent concerns regarding the potential effects of discharges of fluids used for offshore hydraulic fracturing operations," the EPA said in its notice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Firebomb attack

Fate of 2 Canadians held in Mexico still unclear

Two Canadian women detained in Mexico City in connection with a firebomb attack are still waiting to learn if they will face criminal charges or be set free.

Mexican officials say authorities are currently considering the firebombing an act of vandalism, but that the ongoing investigation could lead to serious criminal charges against the Canadians.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. national security

Obama weighing options on NSA's phone program

U.S. President Barack Obama is still grappling with key decisions on the future of the National Security Agency's phone collection program, lawmakers said Thursday.

Obama is expected to back tighter restrictions on foreign leader spying and is considering stripping the NSA of its ability to store telephone records from millions of Americans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Experts say Wright could be let off hook

Senate expense scandal. RCMP's focus on criminal charges could help PM's former chief of staff avoid legal consequences

Nigel Wright could avoid facing legal consequences for his central role in the Senate expense scandal if the RCMP remains focused strictly on possible criminal offences, parliamentary law experts say.

They believe the surest route for prosecutors against Prime Minister Stephen Harper's former chief of staff is an obscure section of the Parliament of Canada Act.

But so far, the Mounties do not appear to be considering it.

Documents filed in court show the RCMP is intent on proving Wright, along with Sen. Mike Duffy, is guilty of bribery, fraud and breach of trust, as spelled out in the Criminal Code. Wright personally gave Duffy $90,000 so that the senator could pay back disputed living expense claims.

For Rob Walsh, former law clerk for the House of Commons, the Wright-Duffy transaction appears on its face to be a clear violation of Sec. 16 of the Parliament of Canada Act.

Walsh said he believes it would be easier to secure a conviction under the act than under any of the Criminal Code provisions cited thus far by the RCMP. Indeed, he doubts criminal charges could be made to stick in relation to the Wright-Duffy deal.

"The evidentiary burden I think is less (under the act) and, to that extent, it ought to be an easier task to prosecute," Walsh said in an interview. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sec. 16

The act specifies that no senator shall receive "any compensation, directly or indirectly," for services rendered in relation to any bill, contract, controversy, accusation or other matter before the Senate, House or any committee.

- The act further stipulates that it is an "indictable offence" to offer compensation to a senator, punishable by up to one year imprisonment and a fine of $500 to $2,000.

Over $1.7B spent on Cyclone buying plan

More than $1.7 billion has already been spent on the elusive effort to upgrade Canada's helicopter fleet, internal documents show, providing a clue as to why the Harper government is sticking with the troubled program.

In the aftermath of an independent report last fall on the beleaguered plan to buy the CH-148 Cyclone choppers as replacements for Canada's aging Sea King fleet, the government acknowledged it was looking at other aircraft, even going so far as to meet with other manufacturers.

Documents show the money went towards "acquisition progress payments" and "in-service support set-up." The nearly decade-long program has delivered just four test helicopters that National Defence has refused to formally accept.

Cancelling the program was clearly not an option, say critics who accuse the Conservatives of perpetrating a charade with its consultations last fall.

Spending so much money and having virtually nothing to show for it would have caused untold political damage, especially among a frustrated Conservative base still reeling from the ongoing Senate expense scandal.

"It would have been a bigger blow to them, to their base, than the F-35 situation," said NDP defence critic Jack Harris.

"I am certain that politics was part of the calculations."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cyberbullying can ruin — or end — lives, campaign says

Stop Hating Online.
MacKay and Rehtaeh Parsons's father stress mindfulness at launch

HALEY RYAN
Metro in Halifax

A crowd of more than 100 students listened quietly as Glen Canning talked about how much damage sharing a private photo can have on someone's life during the launch of a new anti-cyberbullying campaign on Thursday.

Canning spoke at Halifax's Fairview Junior High School alongside Justice Minister Peter MacKay, who said the point of the awareness campaign is for parents and children to know when cyberbullying crosses into illegal territory with the distribution of intimate pictures.

"Please stop and just think about it. Think about how hurtful and harmful that could be," said Canning, father of Rehtaeh Parsons.

Parsons died after taking her own life last April, following what her parents say was months of bullying after an explicit photo was spread around her school.

"You could really end somebody's life," Canning said.

The campaign, Stop Hating Online, will appear around the country in a new commercial, which shows teens sharing a private photo via cellphone before a police officer places them under arrest.

MacKay said it's important to get the message across to kids that sharing intimate photos isn't just wrong, but could change their own lives forever by putting them in jail.

Ever-present

"It's extreme. It doesn't end. It's everywhere."
Fairview Junior High School student Amanda Jamieson, 14, on cyberbullying

While some have criticized the proposed federal law on distributing images without consent by saying it gives police too much power, MacKay said it's important to modernize the Criminal Code.

He said police would go through a judge to obtain a warrant to search online messages and records, so there are safeguards in place.

"Given the very real and devastating effects of cyberbullying, we have to do something and we have to do it quickly," MacKay said.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay arrives with his wife Nazanin Afshin-Jam and son Kian at Fairview Junior High School in Halifax on Thursday. MacKay announced a national campaign to stop cyberbullying. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

No-women request gets OK from York, scorn from politicians

Federal MPs of all political stripes took a Toronto university to task for siding with a male student who requested that he be excused from participating in a group project with women.

The York University student, whose name has not been released, cited religious grounds for the request. His religion is unclear.

Sociology professor Paul Grayson originally rejected the man's request last fall; the student went on to meet with his female classmates as scheduled.

But Grayson said he was later told by the dean of the faculty of liberal arts and professional studies that the student should have been accommodated, since the request did not have a "substantial impact" on the rights of other students.

"York is a public secular university with a commitment to equality," Grayson wrote in a Dec. 9 report.

"As a result, my initial assessment was that to grant the accommodation would be to give tacit support to a negative view of women."

A statement from the university said it based its decision on a number of factors, including consideration of the Ontario Human Rights Code, the individual circumstances, the requirements of the law and the academic requirements of the course.

"A deciding factor in this case was that it was an online course where another student had previously been given permission to complete the course requirement off-campus," said Rhonda Lenton, the university's vice-president academic.

Values dissonance

"This is what we've tried to combat in places like Afghanistan."
Justice Minister Peter MacKay

"Ultimately, a satisfactory agreement was reached between the professor and the student."

The administration's position found no support among federal MPs asked about the controversy.

"This is what we've tried to combat in places like Afghanistan," Justice Minister Peter MacKay said.

"Building schools there, and ensuring now that millions of girls are able to attend school alongside boys, I believe, is a very positive accomplishment of our country."

Added NDP Leader Tom Mulcair: "I don't think a university should be accommodating such a demand."

Parliamentarians with ridings in the vicinity of York also weighed in.

"It's nothing short of ridiculous," Liberal MP Judy Sgro said. "We live in a country seeking gender equality.... This is Canada, pure and simple."

Conservative MP Mark Adler said in an email that the school "needs to realize that this kind of sexism has no place in Canadian society."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics: Defeat, triumph, tragedy and the weather

"Basically all four years lead to one second that can screw you all up."

Canadian ski jumper Stefan Read on failing to qualify for the main competition.

"We have all seen ... how close victory and failure and disaster is together."

Three-time luge gold medallist and German coach Georg Hackl on the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili in a Feb. 12 training crash.

"If 80,000 girls (in Canada) are playing 267 (in Slovakia), that's the 18-0."

International Ice Hockey Federation president Rene Fasel on the state of women's hockey.

"The snow, we bring it in and the warm weather it comes and it disappears."

VANOC spokeswoman Renee Smith-Valade on the rescue of Cypress Mountain's freestyle skiing and snowboarding venues.

"If I could have done this job with a paper bag over my head I probably would have."

VANOC CEO John Furlong on being a public figure.

"These were excellent and friendly Games!"

IOC president Jacques Rogge

Lessons from an old flame

Whether it was the fatal luge crash at Whistler's too-fast sled track, the spring-like weather, or the opening ceremony cauldron malfunction, Vancouver's 2010 Winter Olympics had a dismal start. But they enjoyed a strong finish because red mitten-clad Canadians poured into the streets to cheer on their athletes. But when it comes to a mega-event's legacy, host cities want more than smiles, high fives and happy memories. They want infrastructure, jobs and investment. With the 2014 Winter Games starting next month, Metro looks at Vancouver's Olympic legacy, which could serve as a warning — or hope — for both Sochi and Toronto, host of the 2015 Pan American Games

BOB MACKIN
For Metro in Vancouver

The Olympic cauldron during the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics on Feb. 19, 2010, at left, and earlier this year. LEFT: HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES FILE; RIGHT: JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

THE PITCH

During his B.C. premiership, Gordon Campbell was the biggest salesman for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics.

He claimed it would add $10 billion to the province's economy and he boldly challenged the tourism industry to use the Games to double its revenue. Governments also tried to use the Games to spark domestic and international trade and investment, but the 2008 global economic crisis got in the way.

During the boom-and-bust, bid-to-hosting cycle between 2000 and 2010, Campbell's B.C. Progress Board found B.C.'s economy, personal income and jobs rankings fell behind other provinces and social conditions remained static at ninth overall.

TOURISM FALLS SHORT

Through 2012, tourism was a $13.5-billion industry, unlikely to reach Campbell's $18-billion wish by 2015.

"Even though it received a boost from the 2010 Olympic Games, the province's tourism sector has not kept pace with the rest of the economy over the longer run, as growth in 2011 and 2012 has been well below the average in other industries," according to a Destination B.C. report.

Since 2007, tourism expanded 4.5 per cent, which is below the 6.1 per cent for the overall economy and the 7.8 per cent for the service sector.

Buoyed by a record Olympic February, Vancouver registered 8.415 million hotel stays in 2010, far below the 2007 record of 8.91 million. For 2012, the most recent year available, Vancouver counted 8.34 million room nights.

A BOOM FOR REAL ESTATE

Greater Vancouver homebuilding and buying boomed. The population has swelled by 100,000 since January 2010. The Economist Intelligence Unit named Vancouver the world's third most-livable city, but North America's most-expensive.

Metro Vancouver housing starts of 8,203 in 2000 reached 20,736 in 2007. After plummeting to 8,339 in 2009, starts recovered to 19,027 in 2012.

The Games had an estimated 1.8 billion viewers worldwide, including many deep-pocketed real estate investors. Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver statistics show the detached property benchmark was $425,540 when the International Olympic Committee chose Vancouver in July 2003 and rose to $800,796 in February 2010. It reached $927,000 in December 2013.

NOT A BUSINESS DRAW

Vancouver, Richmond and Surrey combined with Western Economic Diversification Canada for the $1.54-million Metro Vancouver Commerce hospitality program at Gamestime. They wined, dined and plied 100 businesspeople with Games tickets, hoping to draw investment.

Two months after the Games, MVC boasted eight deals worth $60 million. Four small companies agreed to open Vancouver offices, none of which remains or appears active. A $25-million hydrogen plant project between North Vancouver's H-Tec and Quebec's Air Liquide hasn't happened. Abbotsford's Cascade Aerospace denied a $27 million deal with Lockheed Martin was related to MVC.

MVC's February 2011 update claimed $168.8 million of investments — of which $146.4 million were one-offs. MVC took credit for luring Mission: Impossible 4 to shoot in Vancouver and Digital Domain's work on Tron and Thor. Digital Domain spokeswoman Julie Miller said the studio couldn't attribute any of its growth to MVC.

Pixar, the Disney digital animation studio, drew Campbell and Mayor Gregor Robertson to the post-Olympic opening of its Gastown office in April 2010. It closed in October 2013.

WAS IT WORTH IT?

So what became of Campbell's $10 billion Olympic boost?

An October 2011 PwC report commissioned by Ottawa and Victoria estimated the Games increased B.C.'s Gross Domestic Product by $2.3 billion from 2003 to 2010. Hosting the Olympics was among many reasons why B.C.'s debt grew $24 billion over the last decade.

Was the Games' $6 billion-plus price tag money well-spent? In early 2011, B.C.'s then-Auditor General John Doyle chose not to conduct a post-Games audit.

Post-Games: The good, bad and ugly of the venues

The Olympic-triggered, $800-million Sea-to-Sky Highway widening made the drive to Whistler faster and smoother. Vancouver International Airport is only 26 minutes from downtown via the $1.9-billion Canada Line. Vancouver Convention Centre was expanded for $880 million to host major international conventions and it has the 2010 Winter Games cauldron as a decoration.

But with Canada's athletes bound for next month's Sochi Olympics getting a street party send-off Jan. 11 in Banff — not Whistler — and a homecoming parade planned for May in Calgary, the 1988 Games host that remains the national winter sports training base, one has to wonder: What's the Vancouver 2010 winter sport legacy?

BOB MACKIN/FOR METRO IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver Olympic Village: $1.1 B

Petitioned to receivership in November 2010, all but 67 of the 1,108 units were sold or rented by November 2013. City of Vancouver is forecasting a $50 million loss, not counting the $171 million developer Millennium was supposed to pay for the land. Dozens of condo owners are going to B.C. Supreme Court April 7 to seek refunds. Canada's Sochi 2014 snowboarding team, including Regina's Mark McMorris and 2010 gold medallist Maelle Ricker of Squamish, was unveiled here on Jan. 3.

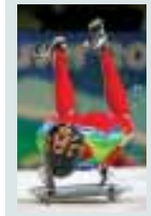
Richmond Olympic Oval: $178 M

Last June's Tough Mudder obstacle race drew 20,000 participants and spectators to Whistler Olympic Park, the biggest Callaghan Valley event since the Games. The two-week Sea-to-Sky Nordic Festival last March served as national championships for the four nordic disciplines, including women's ski jumping. No alpine skiing or snowboarding world cups have returned to the region. Alex Bilodeau won Canada's first home gold medal on Cypress Mountain's freestyle slope, but the Olympic halfpipe was demolished.

Whistler Olympic Park: $122 M

Site of cross-country skiing, biathlon, nordic combined and ski jumping, it drew 20,000 to last June's Tough Mudder obstacle race. The two-week Sea-to-Sky Nordic Festival last March included national championships for women's ski jumping, which debuts at Sochi 2014 after a failed legal battle before Vancouver 2010.

Whistler Sliding Centre: $119 M



As of November, all but 67 of the 1,108 units at the $1.1 billion Village on False Creek had been sold or rented, three years after it was put into receivership over $740 million owed by developer Millennium. City of Vancouver forecast a $50-million loss, not including the $171 million Millennium was supposed to pay for the prime waterfront land. Sixty-eight condo owners, who allege shoddy workmanship, are suing city hall for refunds. A B.C. Supreme Court trial is scheduled to begin April 7.

Elsewhere

Curling is still played at the $85.45 million Hillcrest Centre, but its post-Olympic configuration includes a hockey rink, swimming pools and a library. Cypress Mountain cost $17.6 million to prep for the Games. Alex Bilodeau won Canada's first home gold on its freestyle skiing slope, but the snowboarding halfpipe was demolished after the Games. Ceremonies venue B.C. Place Stadium, renovated for $514 million after the Games, boasts the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame and its Olympics gallery.

Luge tragedy remains darkest legacy of 2010

Outside Whistler Sliding Centre's office, a plaque on a bench in memory of luger Nodar Kumaritashvili reads: "In his honour, live life fully and pursue excellence in all that you do." The flag of Georgia is draped above.

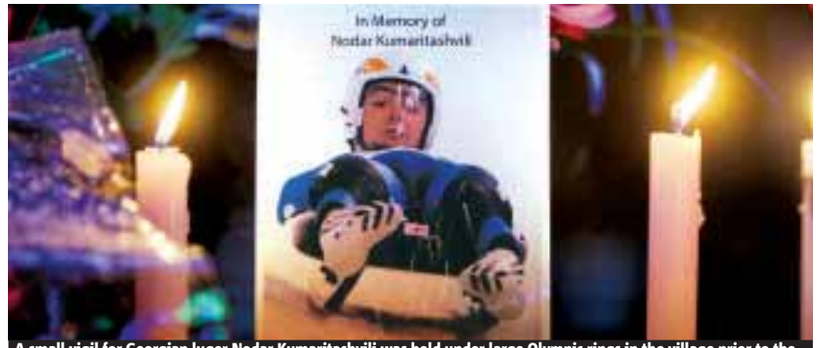
The 21-year-old, from the country next door to Sochi, reached 144.3 km-h during the fateful Feb. 12, 2010 training run, exceeding the track's designed speed. He was catapulted off his out-of-control sled, into an unpadded pole, and pronounced dead an hour later.

Unlike Polish-born-Brit Kazimierz Kay-Skrzypeski at Innsbruck 1964, Kumaritashvili's crash was broadcast and it was on opening day.

In February 2011, CBC's Fifth Estate revealed a March 2009 email by VANOC CEO John Furlong to senior VANOC executives. Architect Udo Gurgel complained the track was not built to his speed specifications.

"An athlete gets badly injured or worse and I think the case could be made we were warned and did nothing," Furlong wrote.

The B.C. Coroner ruled it an accident. A safety audit by Southern Alberta Institute of Technology recommended international luge and bobsled federations improve track design guidance, a maximum safe velocity, rollover barrier design standards, incident analysis, equipment safety and driver/slider competence.



A small vigil for Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili was held under large Olympic rings in the village prior to the opening ceremonies in Whistler, B.C., on Feb. 12, 2010. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

The men's start was moved down to the women's level the day after the tragedy. A new women's start was built for the 2013 world championships.

The steep Blackcomb slope and narrow footprint helped make Whistler the world's fastest track, one-fifth the width of Salt Lake's 2002 track. The $119 million sliding centre opened in 2008, more than double the Bid Book budget. Did a nearby run-of-river power plant influence the design?

Correspondence between Fitzsimmons Creek power plant builder Ledcor and the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation in 2002 and 2003 indicated the location for the 3.4 km penstock pipe was contentious. Ledcor worried that moving it too close to cliffside would be risky and wanted compensation from VANOC for the added costs. The 2009-installed pipe comes within 10 m of the track. Owner Innergex began operations in January 2010.

SAIT Prof. Alex Zahavich said his audit did not look at "anything relative to the surrounding area." International Luge Federation executive director Svein Romstad was unaware the penstock was a bid-era issue. VANOC construction chief Dan Doyle said it was "resolved without much fuss."

"I do not remember having to change the design of the track because of it," said Doyle, now B.C. Premier Christy Clark's chief of staff.

Online

For more on Metro's 2010 Olympics look back, go to metronews.ca.

With opposing hearts

Olympic booster and opponent ponder Vancouver legacy

Ex-Vancouver Canucks owner Arthur Griffiths was Vancouver Whistler Bid Society's leader when it got Canadian Olympic Committee approval in 1998 to seek the 2010 Games. Scientist and author Chris Shaw was Vancouver's best-known Olympic critic. In separate interviews they look back at Vancouver 2010.

Most important legacy?

Griffiths: "The spirit that Vancouver demonstrated... That our fans, the residents and so on just really stepped up to the plate and made this a fun experience for anybody that watched or attended the Games."

Shaw: "The Government of Canada, acting on behalf of the Olympics, made the possibility of civil dissent a subject for surveillance. For me that was the most shocking revelation, that our society is not as free and democratic."

Was it money well spent?

Griffiths: "Without question...Ultimately Vancouver showed that you can host the Olympics by creating venues that have real long term use and take advantage of the venues that are already here."

Shaw: "I don't think so. Comparing it to the Russians, guess we got a bargain! That $6 billion or whatever the real number turned out to be could clearly have been used for many more beneficial things that would have aided society at large."

Advice for Toronto, host of the 2015 Pan American Games.

Griffiths: "They're spread out over such a vast area. It is a huge, huge undertaking, just more athletes than the Winter Games. I hope they will demonstrate to themselves, they will demonstrate to anybody looking, the IOC and FIFA, that there is an opportunity for Toronto ... to host a future Games or some major sporting event. Toronto is more than equipped for it."

Shaw: "Your city is going to change for that period of time and you will not be able to go about your business the same way because it is for the benefit of the people who run the Games... best advice is to do what a lot of people did in Vancouver: Get out of town... Having said that, if you really want to express your view, go out in the streets with a placard and see how far you get with that and express your displeasure to the powers that be." BOB MACKIN/FOR METRO IN VANCOUVER

Page turner. French Senate tries to give independent bookstores fairy tale ending

If the French Senate gets its way, retail giant Amazon and its online peers won't be able to offer free book deliveries in France anymore.

In an unusual show of unity Thursday, the upper house of parliament unanimously approved a bill that would amend a 33-year-old law regulating book prices, and help struggling independent book sellers, which have faced tough competition from cost-cutting online vendors in the digital age.

The bill would allow online vendors like U.S.-based Amazon to cut the regular delivery price by up to five per cent — but not provide free delivery.

A new bill calls for online companies like Amazon to stop free delivery in France. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 92.15¢ (-0.41¢)

TSX 13,629.41 (+14.78)

OIL $91.66 US (-$0.67)

GOLD $1,229.40 US (+$3.90)

Natural gas: $4.01 US (-$0.02)
Dow Jones: 16,444.76 (-17.98)

Food giants have slim-down success

Beat resolution.
Companies used classic diet methods — portion control and calorie reduction — to pare down calories in products

Some of the largest food companies in the U.S. have cut daily calorie counts by an average of 78 per person, a new study says, more than four times the amount the industry pledged to slash by next year.

The study, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, found that between 2007 and 2012, the estimated total cut in food product calories from a group of 16 major food companies was in the range of 6.4 trillion.

Seventy-eight calories would be about the same as an average cookie or a medium apple, and the federal government estimates an average daily diet at around 2,000 calories.

The study said the calories cut averaged out to 78 calories per day for the entire U.S. population. The 2010 pledge taken by the companies — including General Mills Inc., Campbell Soup Co., ConAgra Foods Inc., Kraft Foods Inc., Kellogg Co., Coca-Cola Co., PepsiCo Inc. and Hershey Co. — was to cut one trillion calories by 2012 and 1.5 trillion calories by 2015. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation signed on to hold the companies accountable, and that group hired researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to painstakingly count the calories in almost every single packaged item in the grocery store.

Can see results

Evidence of the efforts by some of the largest food companies in the U.S. are visible on any grocery store shelf. These days shelves routinely feature smaller servings, such as 100-calorie packs of popular snacks and smaller cans of sugary drinks.

That's one svelte-looking Campbell's soup can. Some major U.S. food companies successfully reduced calories in recent years. J. DAVID AKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Green with envy yet? Googlers commute via private 83-foot catamaran

How's this for an employee perk? Google workers commuting from San Francisco to the company's Silicon Valley campus can now make part of the trek on an 83-foot, Wi-Fi-equipped catamaran.

The popular search engine has launched a free ferry service from San Francisco's ferry terminal to the Port of Redwood City about 42 kilometres away, where employees can then hop a private bus to work.

Named the "Triumphant," the charter ferry can carry up to 150 passengers and runs twice each morning and evening, with voyages lasting about 47 minutes each way, according to KPIX-TV.

"They're going to see if this is something their employees want, and if it makes economic and logistical sense," said Peter Dailey, maritime director for the Port of San Francisco, which operates the terminal used by the Google ferry and other charter services, told the San Jose Mercury News.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Googlers have a private ferry but do they have Casual Jeans Friday? Donning casual pants beats a boat any day, right? Right? BEN MARGOT/THE ASSOCIATES PRESS

Snapchat promises...

More protection

For the first time since its New Year's security breach that exposed the phone numbers of millions of users, Snapchat has apologized in an update.

The disappearing-photo app promises a more secure version of its app following the breach, which allowed hackers to collect the usernames and phone numbers of 4.6 million of its users.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bakers told to use...

Less cinnamon

Denmark's food authority asked bakers to reduce the amount of cinnamon they sprinkle in some sweet treats. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airlines buying...

More planes

Airlines are on the largest jet-buying spree in the history of aviation, ordering more than 8,200 new planes with manufacturers Airbus SAS and The Boeing Co. in the past five years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HASHTAGS, JELLY AND THE GREEN LADY

THE METRO LIST
Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 Hockey Canada. The team announced their men's roster live on TV and Twitter, and the hashtag #TeamCanada blew up with people chirping on who made the team and who didn't. After all, what's more important than the Olympic Men's Hockey team? Nothing. Biggest question mark: Why didn't Martin St. Louis make the team?

2 Hatching Twitter. This excellent new book by Nick Bilton tells the story of how Twitter came to be. It talks about the drama between the founders as the revolutionary social media platform was built and became the biggest thing since... well, Facebook. The book also explains that constant "Fail Whale" that used to plague the site.

3 Dragons' Den auditions. The 2014 Audition Tour for the hit show begins Jan. 18 in Toronto before heading coast to coast over the next few months to accept pitches from would-be entrepreneurs. My pitch this year will be a solar vortex line of clothing to combat Canadian weather such as blizzards and ice storms.

4 Tweet-a-Coffee. Starbucks Canada announced an e-gifting program, Tweet-a-Coffee, allowing customers to send $5 gift cards through Twitter by going to Starbucks.ca. Customers can redeem it at stores by showing it directly on their mobile device. Great idea. Now when are we going to see Tweet-a-Double-Double from Tim Hortons?

5 Toronto Raptors. Ever since they traded their star player Rudy Gay in December, they have done everything but tank. In fact, they have become the talk of the NBA with their young, exciting nucleus of Terrence Ross, Kyle Lowry, Amir Johnson, Jonas Valanciunas and DeMar DeRozan. Playoff team? Slam dunk. This team is for real.

6 #WeAreWinter. The Canadian Olympic Committee announced a We Are Winter-marketing campaign including a social media partnership with Twitter to use the hashtag #WeAreWinter. It is meant to denote Canadian Olympians can handle this winter stuff: It's at the heart of our identity. We'll prove it for sure when the Games begin Feb. 7 in Sochi, Russia. Until then, chill out.

7 Jelly. Twitter founder Biz Stone launched his startup Jelly, an app that lets you ask questions, push them out to your network and get rapid responses. Jelly puts a heavy emphasis on visuals, encouraging users to post photos and ask questions about what they're seeing. This could become the world's biggest and longest visual Q & A ever.

8 Juan Pablo. The new season of The Bachelor debuted this week with 27 suitors for hunky Latino star Juan Pablo, whose name quickly went trending on social media. Thousands of guys are now secretly hoping their partner refers to them as "my Juan Pablo."

9 SNL. Mark Jan. 18 on your calendar as Canadian hip-hop star Drake will have double duty that night, being host and musical guest of SNL. That show also marks the debut of the show's new cast member Sasheer Zamata, the first female African-American cast member since Maya Rudolph's departure in 2007. This will be a special night.

10 The Green Lady. One of the oddest police releases ever went out this week. Someone stole a six-foot tall, 600-pound green avatar mannequin wearing a $300 black fur coat from the front porch of a fashion store called Tragically Hipp in downtown Lakefield, Ont. She was known as The Green Lady. The Tragically Hip should write a song about her.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

ZOOM

Meanwhile, in Australia ...

TRISH WIMBERLEY/AUSTRALIAN BAT CLINIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Record heat wave Down Under

Heat-stressed baby flying foxes are lined up ready to feed at the Australia Bat Clinic near the Gold Coast in Queensland, Australia. Bats are dropping from trees, kangaroos are collapsing in the Outback and gardens are turning brown. While North America freezes under record polar temperatures, the southern hemisphere is experiencing the opposite extreme as heat records are set in Australia after the hottest year ever.

Weather forecasters said some parts of the sparsely populated Pilbara region along the rugged northwest coast approached 50 C on Thursday.

The late arrival of the monsoon in northern Australia, which has a cooling effect, is contributing to the searing heat, said the manager of climate monitoring at Australia's Bureau of Meteorology. Global warming also plays a role, he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

50K

At least 50,000 bats have been killed by the heat in the state's southeast, said Louise Saunders, president of the Queensland animal welfare group Bat Conservation and Rescue. Heat-stressed bats cling to trees and urinate on themselves in a bid to reduce their body temperatures, she said. "As they succumb, they just fall in heaps at the base of trees ... you can have 250 or more. It's like dripping chocolate, all dying at the base of trees."

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

TVs boasting screens swollen to silly sizes have stolen the Consumer Electronics Show spotlight this week. But in the end, they're just TVs. Very, very expensive TVs. Nuts to that. We want gadgets! Here are three CES gizmos with crowdsourcing campaigns you can jump into.

COURTESY ATOUCHJET.COM

PrioVR:

Many gamers have been lusting for Oculus Rift, a virtual reality gaming system that boasts, among other things, a mortality-teasing guillotine simulator. PrioVR, pretty much a full-body VR Power Glove hosting an array of sensors capable of real-time motion capture, may be destined to turn this nascent VR lust into love. (priovr.com)

Touch Jet:

Sure, a small projector that attaches to your mobile device so you can display your images on a wall is pretty cool. But a device that projects a working touch-screen on a wall? That's some science-fiction that fits snugly in your pocket. The company behind it is planning to launch an Indiegogo campaign in February. (atouchjet.com)

Solar Cool:

We're willing to bet you've audibly wished for a solar-powered beverage cooler on some hot day, even if that probably seems like a distant memory this winter. Well, here it is: capable of holding up to 114 cans, this device promises to capture the heat of the sun and convert it to pleasant, drinkable refreshment. (solarcooltech.com)

Comments

RE: Danish Cinnamon Rolls Too Spicy for EU Rules, published online Wednesday, Jan. 9

EU = ultimate nanny state.
Myworkisdonehere, posted to metronews.ca

I'm glad they still have time for issues like this, we wouldn't want them to solve the financial crisis that has plunged Southern Europe into a depression. There is a theory that says having a large proportion of young men in a society make it more warlike. Perhaps having a large proportion of seniors makes a society cautious to the point of inaction.
BugsBunny, posted to metronews.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: saskatoonletters@metronews.ca

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Synopsis

The Reel Guys are hardy Canadians, but with the sub-zero weather we've been having lately even the most robust Canuck deserves a snow day. With that in mind, the Reel Guys have put away their long underwear, ear muffs and dignity and decided to stay home. At the risk of earning ridicule from our friends in Saskatchewan and other places where it regularly gets frigid, here are our ideas for movies to take your mind off the deep freeze. Close the drapes, turn up the heat and enjoy...

Put on Blue Crush and pretend you're in Hawaii. HANDOUT

Come, warm yourself by the glowing blue screen

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Movies to forget the snow. The Reel Guys chat about the films that get them hot

Richard: Spring Breakers was shot in St. Petersburg, Florida, so expect lots of beach shots, beautiful sunsets and a young cast — featuring Selena Gomez, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Benson and Rachel Korine— stripped down to clothing that would cause instant frost bite for those us of living in the Great White North these days. The story of the illegal way they try to make money for spring break plays more like a wild music video than traditional film, but there's no denying the heat that comes off the screen.

Mark: Heat is right! I thought I was going through male menopause watching the movie. Another way to bring some cinematic heat into this cold hard winter is by watching as many surfing movies as possible. There are the documentaries, to be sure, but, wet suits replace bikinis ... not good! I like movies like Blue Crush, Soul Surfer, and my all-time favourite, Point Break, which mixes surfing, bank robbery, and acid cults with Keanu Reeves at the helm. Marvellous!

RC: Surfing movies were never really my thing, but in the goofy Surf's Up there's animated penguins, goofy sidekicks, loads of poop jokes and Zooey Deschanel but it's a cut above the rest. On another note, not since Meatballs has a movie captured the silliness of summer camp. Wet Hot American Summer was shot in a cold Pennsylvania spring — you can even see the actor's breath sometimes — but it's still plenty steamy. The all-star millennial comedy cast features Paul Rudd, Amy Poehler and Bradley Cooper in a Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh story about the last wild day of camp.

MB: Summer camp? I'm with you on the Canadian classic Meatballs, with the great Bill Murray. But there's another counter-intuitive way to go here, Richard. And that is to watch movies that depict a world so hot, you'll be wishing for some refreshing snowflakes. Just put on the great Lawrence of Arabia. You'll want to make a snowman by the second hour. Or Gus Van Sant's Gerry or Antonioni's Zabriskie Point, both of which take place in literal and existential deserts. Dune would probably work too, although I've never met anyone who could watch it all the way through.

RC: Talk about flipping from one extreme to the other. I'll stick with a more moderate climate for my last pick. Under the Tuscan Sun is a hot love story starring Diane Lane set in moderate, but enjoyable temperatures.

MB: A lovely movie. But let's not forget the old standby: The Yule Log, burning brightly on DVD. Not much of a cast, the acting is wooden, but the dialogue crackles!

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 10 TO THURS., JAN. 16 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Broadway Theatre
715 Broadway Ave.

The Armstrong Lie (PG) Fri 9:30 Sat 7 Sun 9:30 Mon 7 Tue 9:30
Evan Hardy Media School (STC) Wed 7
Oldboy (18A) Fri 7 Sat 9:30 Sun 7 Mon

9:30 Tue 7 Wed 9:30 Thu 7-9:30

Cineplex Odeon Centre
3510 8th St. East

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
Frozen (G) Sat-Sun 12:10 Wed 2
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 7:45 Sat-Sun 2:45-5:15-7:45 Mon-Thu 5:20
Girl, Boy, Bakla, Tomboy (PG) Fri 7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:05-7-9:45 Mon-Tue 5:35-8:30 Wed 1:50-5:35-8:30 Thu 5:35-8:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri 6:45-10:05 Sat-Sun 12-3:20-6:45-10:05 Mon-Tue 7:45 Wed 1:35-7:45 Thu 7:45
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 6:55-10 Sat-Sun 3:30-6:55-10 Mon-Tue 5:15-8:20 Wed 1:55-5:15-8:20 Thu 5:15-8:20
Saving Mr. Banks (G) Fri 7:30-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:30-10:20 Mon-Tue 5:25-8:10 Wed 1:30-5:25-8:10 Thu 5:25-8:10
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 10:15 Mon-Thu 8:05
Walking With Dinosaurs (G) Sat-Sun 1:15
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:15-8 Mon-Tue 7:30 Wed 1:40-7:30 Thu 7:30

Galaxy Cinemas Saskatoon

347 2nd Ave. South

47 Ronin 3D (PG) Fri 4:55-7:45-10:30 Sat 2:05-4:55-7:45-10:30 Sun 4:55-7:45-10:30 Mon-Tue 7:45-10:30 Wed 10:30 Thu 7
An Affair to Remember (STC) Sun 12:55 Wed 7
American Hustle (14A) Fri 4-7:15-10:25 Sat-Sun 12:50-4-7:15-10:25 Mon-Wed 7:15-10:20 Thu 7:15
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG) Fri 5:05-7:55-10:45 Sat 11:15-2:15-5:05-7:55-10:45 Sun 2:15-5:05-7:55-10:45 Mon-Thu 7:20-10:10
August: Osage County (14A) Fri 4:10-7:05-10 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:05-10 Mon-Thu 7:05-10
Devil's Due (14A) No Passes Thu 10:15
Evangelion: 3.0 You Can (Not) Redo (PG) Sat 12:55 Thu 7:30
Frozen (G) Sat 11:10-12 Sun 12
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 5:20-8-10:35 Sat-Sun 2:40-5:20-8-10:35 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:50
Her (14A) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri 7:20-10:50 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:45-7:20-10:50 Mon-Thu 6:50-10:15
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 7-10:10 Sat 11:30-3:50-7-10:10 Sun 12:40-3:50-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 7-10:05
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (STC) No Passes Thu 10:15
Lone Survivor (14A) Fri 4:40-7:40-10:40 Sat 11-1:40-4:40-7:40-10:40 Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:40 Mon-Thu 7:35-10:35
Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (14A) Fri 6-8:20-10:45 Sat 11:10-1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 8:05-10:20
Puss in Boots (G) Sat 11
Ride Along (PG) No Passes Thu 9:45
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (G) Fri 5:30-8:10-10:50 Sat 2:45-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sun 12:05-2:45-5:30-8:10-10:50 Mon-Wed 7:50-10:25 Thu 10:25
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri 4:45-8:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-4:45-8:45 Mon-Wed 8:15 Thu 6:30

Roxy Theatre
320 20th St West

Dallas Buyers Club (14A) Fri 9:20 Sat-Sun 3:20-9:20 Mon 9:20 Tue 1-9:20 Wed-Thu 9:20
Nebraska (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Nenokkadine (STC) Sat 3:30
Philomena (PG) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-7:10 Mon-Wed 7:10

Rainbow Cinemas Saskatoon
The Centre at Circle & 8th

The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-6:55-9:40
Captain Phillips (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-6:50-9:45
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Fri-Thu 2-4:25-7:30
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7-9:25
Despicable Me 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40
Ender's Game (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:20
Escape Plan (14A) Fri-Thu 7:25-10
Homefront (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:10-9:35
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Wed 1:25-4:35-7:05-9:30 Thu 4:35-7:05-9:30
Oldboy (18A) Fri-Thu 9:55

Action/Biography

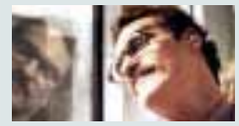
Lone Survivor

Director. Peter Berg

Stars. Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch

Lone Survivor is further proof that war is hell. Based on a failed real-life SEAL Team 10's Afghanistan mission to locate and eliminate a Taliban leader — the movie's title is a spoiler. The operation goes wrong almost as soon as the team — Marcus (Mark Wahlberg), Michael (Taylor Kitsch), Danny (Emile Hirsch) and Matthew (Ben Foster) — touch ground in the Kush Mountains. Not since Saving Private Ryan has a battle scene been so effectively rendered but it isn't a propaganda film: it's a stark reminder of the camaraderie of soldiers. **RICHARD CROUSE**

Drama/Comedy



Her

Director. Spike Jonze

Stars. Joaquin Phoenix

Writer-director Spike Jonze's latest oddball offering is an emotionally sophisticated, Sci-Fi tinted love story hiding in an absurdist fantasy skin. In it, Joaquin Phoenix plays a professional letter writer who falls madly in love with his sentient, sensual operating system (voiced gloriously by Scarlett Johansson) with surprising, surreal results. Her is like a mad amalgam of Ray Bradbury's I Sing The Body Electric smashed up against Demon Seed anchored by sly satire and an unforgettable, career best turn by Phoenix. **CHRIS ALEXANDER**

Comedy/Drama

August: Osage County

Director. John Wells

Stars. Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts, Benedict Cumberbatch

Fans of dysfunctional family dramas, you've hit the jackpot. In this adaptation of playwright Tracy Letts's August: Osage County, a patriarch's mysterious disappearance prompts a star-studded family reunion that will make your wacky relatives look saintly. The highly anticipated on-screen union of Streep and Roberts doesn't disappoint, but it's understated, touching performances by Cumberbatch, Margo Martindale and Juliette Lewis that give August its gravitas. **MANORI RAVINDRAN**

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Humanitarian award has Hudson fighting back the tears

Actress-singer Jennifer Hudson, right, and sister Julia Hudson. GETTY IMAGES

Jennifer Hudson held back tears when she accepted the favourite humanitarian award at the 2014 People's Choice Awards on Wednesday night.

Accompanied on stage by her sister Julia Hudson, the Oscar-winning actress became choked up as she said: "My mother always taught us without family you have nothing. Whether you know it or not, we all are family. What happens to the other happens to us. It's one thing to be a celebrity and have power, but it means nothing if we're not making a difference and helping someone else."

Hudson created the Chicago-based Julian D. King Gift Foundation with her sister, Julia Hudson, in honour of her nephew, Julian King, who was murdered in 2008 at the age of seven. The crime also took the lives of the Hudsons' mother and brother.

The foundation aims to provide stability and positive experiences for children. Hudson was presented with the award by LL Cool J. "It feels good to see positivity acknowledged," she said. "Where we come from all you hear about is who shot who and who went to jail. There is more to life than the block you live on. We want to show them that I came from the same area and if I can do it, you can do it too. It does not stop there."

Hudson's speech was the only thing to strike a strong emotional chord during the ceremony. Bestowing the humanitarian award remains a gripping moment in a show primarily packed with light-hearted banter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelly Osbourne GETTY IMAGES

Osbourne's engagement off after 'amicable' split

The wedding's off for Kelly Osbourne, who just announced that she's split from fiancé Matthew Mosshart just months after announcing their engagement. "Kelly Osbourne and Matthew Mosshart have decided to end their engagement," her rep tells People magazine. "The split is amicable and the pair continue to have nothing but the utmost respect for one another. Kelly is looking forward to a new year full of fresh beginnings. No further comment will be provided." The pair met in 2011 at Kate Moss' wedding.

Pattinson gets playful with artist friend

Robert Pattinson was reportedly getting "very touchy-feely" with London-based artist Nettie Wakefield on a night out together, according to a the British tabloid. "They were trying to keep a low profile but Rob teased Nettie by messing with her hair and they had a flirty play-fight," a source says. "Afterwards they were giggling like teenagers." Pattinson's rep insists, though, that the pair are "very good friends and are definitely not dating," which is probably good news for Dylan Penn, aspiring screenwriter and daughter of Sean Penn, whom Pattinson has reportedly been dating since November.

Robert Pattinson GETTY IMAGES

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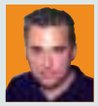
Liquid Assets

A glass of the cheap stuff



LIQUID ASSETS
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@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Unless you're one of "those" people who keep Christmas decorations up until Easter, the only holiday joy yet to be spread is from your credit card companies.

Wine appreciation on a budget doesn't mean you have to scrimp on quality. In fact, the majority of wines between $10 and $12 dollars are solidly constructed and pleasantly consistent vintage to vintage.

Sure, while you'll give up nuance and complexity the cheaper you drink, most over deliver at their modest price points.

The best advice is to look for blended wines — those made from more than one grape variety — from warmer climates. Combining the juice of different berries can elevate the personality a simple wine (with each berry supporting the overall union) and reliable weather conditions assist in creating a standardized flavour profile.

Hardys' 2012 Stamp Series Riesling Gewurztraminer ($9.95 - $10.99) is a good example of my philosophy and its soft, floral aromas and off-dry, tropical-meets-citrus palate gives it food pairing versatility. Start with pork roast or Asian cuisine. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Where the American South and China meet

Dessert. Coconut-Orange Ambrosia

During Chinese New Year, displaying and eating tangerines and oranges is said to bring wealth and luck. Sounds like a fine start to the new year!

It doesn't hurt that oranges are hitting their prime about now. A great way to use up oranges is to make ambrosia, a lightly sweet treat that originates in the American South.

The two main ingredients are oranges and coconut, both welcome on any Chinese table. So celebrating Chinese New Year with this classic dish seems about right.

1. Use a paring knife to cut off the tops and bottoms of each orange. One at a time, stand each orange on a cut side and slice off the peel on all sides.

2. One at a time, hold the peeled oranges in a cupped hand over a bowl to catch the juices. Use the paring knife to cut out the orange segments from between the membranes.

Ingredients

- 8 to 10 large navel oranges
- 2 oz (4 tbsp) orange liqueur
- 2 tsp superfine sugar
- Pinch of salt
- Flesh from 1 fresh coconut, grated
- 1 sprig fresh mint
- Whipped cream

Add the segments to the bowl. When all of the segments have been removed from each orange, squeeze the membranes over the bowl to get as much juice as possible.

3. Sprinkle the oranges with the orange liqueur, sugar and salt. Toss gently. Divide between 4 serving bowls. Top with the fresh coconut, a few fresh mint leaves and whipped cream. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ELIZABETH KARMEL, AUTHOR OF SOAKED, SLATHERED AND SEASONED.**

Limes and cherries mingle in brownie

1. Heat the oven to 350 F. Coat a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with baking spray.

2. In bowl, combine melted butter, brown sugar, salt, lime zest and vanilla. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Stir in the flour and cocoa powder, then stir in the cherries and chocolate.

3. Spread the mixture evenly into the prepared pan. Dollop lime marmalade and cherry jam over the top of the brownie batter. Gently drag the back of a spoon through the top of the batter and the marmalade and jam to swirl them into the surface. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted at the centre yields just moist crumbs. Allow to cool in the pan. Cut into 24 bars.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter, melted
- 2 cups packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- Zest of 1 lime
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 eggs
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup Dutch processed cocoa powder, sifted
- 1 cup dried cherries
- 1 cup bittersweet chocolate chunks
- 1/3 cup lime marmalade
- 1/3 cup cherry jam

This recipe serves 24. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peyton Manning is hit by defensive end Corey Liuget as he throws a pass on Dec. 12 in Denver. DUSTIN BRADFORD/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Chargers tasked with reining in Broncos

NFL playoffs. San Diego defence primed to shut down the league's best offence once again

The Chargers stunned the Denver Broncos five weeks ago, making Peyton Manning look average and claiming a road victory that was part of a late-season surge that helped sweep San Diego into the playoffs.

They'll have to do it again Sunday in a divisional-round game against the top-seeded Broncos in Denver to keep their January joyride going.

"We're going to come in there with a vengeance and see if we can shock the world again," Pro Bowl safety Eric Weddle said Thursday.

As much as the Chargers' offence contributed to the 27-20 victory at Denver on Dec. 12, defensive co-ordinator John Pagano came up with a game plan that helped frustrate Manning and the high-powered Broncos.

The Bolts held the Broncos to season lows in points and total offensive yards (295). The Broncos had only 18 yards rushing.

Pagano said the Chargers communicated well, didn't give up big plays and tackled well.

"It's always a challenge for us as a staff putting those things together when you see an opponent for the third time," Pagano said. "It really comes down to between the lines, players going out and executing."

While Manning is 3-1 against San Diego since coming to the Broncos, the Chargers eliminated the Manning-led Indianapolis Colts from the playoffs following the 2007 and 2008 seasons.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seahawks vs. Saints

Wide receiver Percy Harvin will play for the Seattle Seahawks in Saturday's NFC divisional playoff game against the New Orleans Saints after missing most of the season following hip surgery.

- Seattle coach Pete Carroll said Harvin would play after Thursday's practice, adding there would be no limitations on how they use Harvin, including on kickoff returns.

CFL

Stampeders sign ex-top rookie

The Calgary Stampeders are giving running back Martell Mallett a chance to resurrect his CFL career.

The Stampeders signed the former top rookie Thursday. Mallett missed the entire 2012 season with a torn Achilles tendon before being released by the Hamilton Tiger-Cats last May.

Mallett was the CFL's top rookie in 2009 while with the B.C. Lions. He ran for 1,240 yards and six TDs that season while adding 43 catches for 342 yards and two touchdowns.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Gruden hired to revamp Redskins

Jay Gruden says he doesn't care about the Washington Redskins' tumultuous past, and he has built a "genuine" trust with franchise player Robert Griffin III.

The former Bengals offensive co-ordinator was introduced Thursday as coach of the Redskins. He signed a five-year deal Wednesday as the successor to Mike Shanahan, who was fired last week after a 3-13 season.

"All they want to do is win, and they're going to provide me with every avenue to win," Gruden said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Redskins coach Jay Gruden
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ex-Senators star ready for retirement

Former Senators stalwart Wade Redden retired on Thursday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Former Ottawa Senators all-star defenceman and World Cup of Hockey gold medallist Wade Redden retired Thursday after a 14-year NHL career.

Redden played a total of 1,023 regular-season games with Ottawa, the New York Rangers, St. Louis and Boston. He finished with 457 points (109 goals, 348 assists) and a plus-160 rating over his career.

"I would first and foremost like to thank my family and friends for their unconditional love and support," Redden said in a statement released by the NHL Players' Association. "I would also like to thank my teammates, coaches and staff for all the great memories created throughout the years. To the fans, I appreciate all your support throughout my career.

Long tenure

11

Wade Redden played the first 11 seasons of his NHL career with the Senators, playing in the 2007 Stanley Cup final.

"Playing in the National Hockey League has been a dream come true and I feel very proud and privileged to have played more than 1,000 games in 14 NHL seasons."

Redden also had 49 points (13-36) in 106 career playoff games.

The native of Lloydminster, Sask., was drafted second overall by the New York Islanders in the 1995 draft but never played for the team. He was dealt to the Senators in a five-player trade on Jan, 23, 1996.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
There are so many ambitions you want to pursue and so many goals you want to reach, but not even an Aries can do everything at once. Decide what is the top thing that needs to be done — and do it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The planets indicate this is the perfect time to sit quietly and ponder the meaning of your existence. If that sounds a bit too intellectual, just plan your next big vacation.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
The first step toward resolving a problem is to recognize that there is a problem, and that is the step you must take today. For too long, you have ignored the warning signs.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Be completely honest with everyone you deal with today, even if it means you hurt their feelings. If you lie, despite the best of intentions, they will find out later and take it as a sign you cannot be trusted.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you have done something you are proud of then shout about it. You are no stranger to drawing attention to yourself but this is one of those occasions when you have every right to go on a lap of honour.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Take care you don't get lulled into a false sense of security and end up making the kind of silly mistake you usually work so hard to avoid. Check every detail over the next 24 hours.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Make an effort to put squabbles behind you. That might seem like a tall order considering how fragile certain relationships have been but it will be easier than you imagine.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Interesting information will come your way over the next 24 hours, making it easier for you to get your way. Once others realize you are ahead of the game, they are much more likely to do as you say.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Be positive about what happens today. Look on the bright side and realize that negativity of any kind will only add to your problems. Most of the world's population would give its right arm to be you.

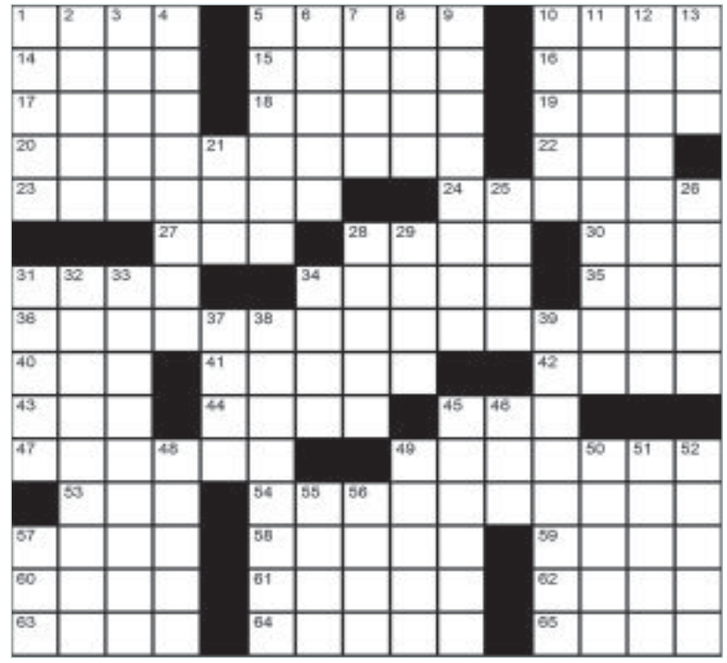
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Start something that helps you make your mark on the world. Don't worry that certain people might not approve. It's a sure sign that you are doing something worthwhile.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Don't reject an idea just because it seems impractical. A few days from now, you will see it in a light that makes you realize that if you want something enough, you can find a way to get it.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It may seem that you are lucky, but it isn't true. The cosmos rewards those who deserve it and no one deserves it more than you. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

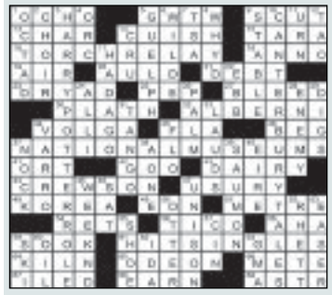
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. __ dancing (Punk†rock dance style)
5. Ms. Lovato's
10. Billy Ray Cyrus' "__ Breaky Heart"
14. Matador's victim
15. Forcibly seize
16. "To __ __ not to..."
17. Observer
18. Plane seating request
19. Lakes, in Quebec
20. Profession for #28-Across: 2 wds.
22. Informally seat theatre-goers
23. Mottos
24. Concurs
27. Profound feeling
28. Ms. Olson of Food Network Canada
30. "Alice" waitress
31. Egotistically emote
34. Had pizza delivered: 2 wds.
35. Singer Janis
36. Rainwater harvesting is a source of it: 2 wds.
40. 'Lobby' suffix
41. Piano's D Sharp key alternatively, _ __
42. Actress/singer Ms. Michele's
43. Q. "Who's that novelist Mr. Lawrence?" A. "_._., _ believe."
44. Some: 2 wds.
45. Actor Mr. Wheaton
47. Esoteric
49. Newspaper piece
53. Sarah McLachlan song
54. CRTC = Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications __
57. Face part
58. Characteristic
59. Quiz
60. Katarina of figure skating
61. www mag
62. Margarine
63. Deuce-ace
64. Giver
65. Average

Down
1. Footprints
2. Faithful
3. "You __ __ Beautiful" by Joe Cocker
4. CMHC = Canada __ and Housing Corporation
5. The Rock, aka __ Johnson
6. Hockey great Mr. Lindros, and namesakes
7. Go together well
8. Archipelago part
9. "Hart to Hart" star Ms. Powers
10. Q. "'Song 2', do you know it?" A. "Yes, it's _ __ song from 1997."
11. Peace, in wartime
12. Present-day Montreal in French explorer Jacques Cartier's time
13. Decade divs.
21. Carrot-consuming choice, cooked or __
25. "The Journey of Natty __" (1985)
26. Some electronics
28. Attorney-__-__
29. Nair competitor
31. Water filter company
32. Quentin Tarantino's "__ Dogs" (1992)
33. 'Cemetery of the Gulf' in Quebec, __ Island
34. Competent
37. Gradually withdraw
38. Influenced
39. Newfoundland town, 'The Root Cellar Capital of the World'
45. Author
46. The thing's
48. Have an __ __ grind
49. __ acid
50. Sky: Spanish
51. NBC's "The Biggest __"
52. Insects sci.
55. Pasta kind
56. Central
57. Nunavut's neigh.

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	5	6	8	7	3	4	1	9
4	1	9	2	6	5	7	8	3
3	7	8	9	4	1	2	6	5
9	6	1	5	8	7	3	4	2
5	3	2	4	1	6	9	7	8
7	8	4	3	9	2	6	5	1
6	9	5	7	2	8	1	3	4
1	2	3	6	5	4	8	9	7
8	4	7	1	3	9	5	2	6

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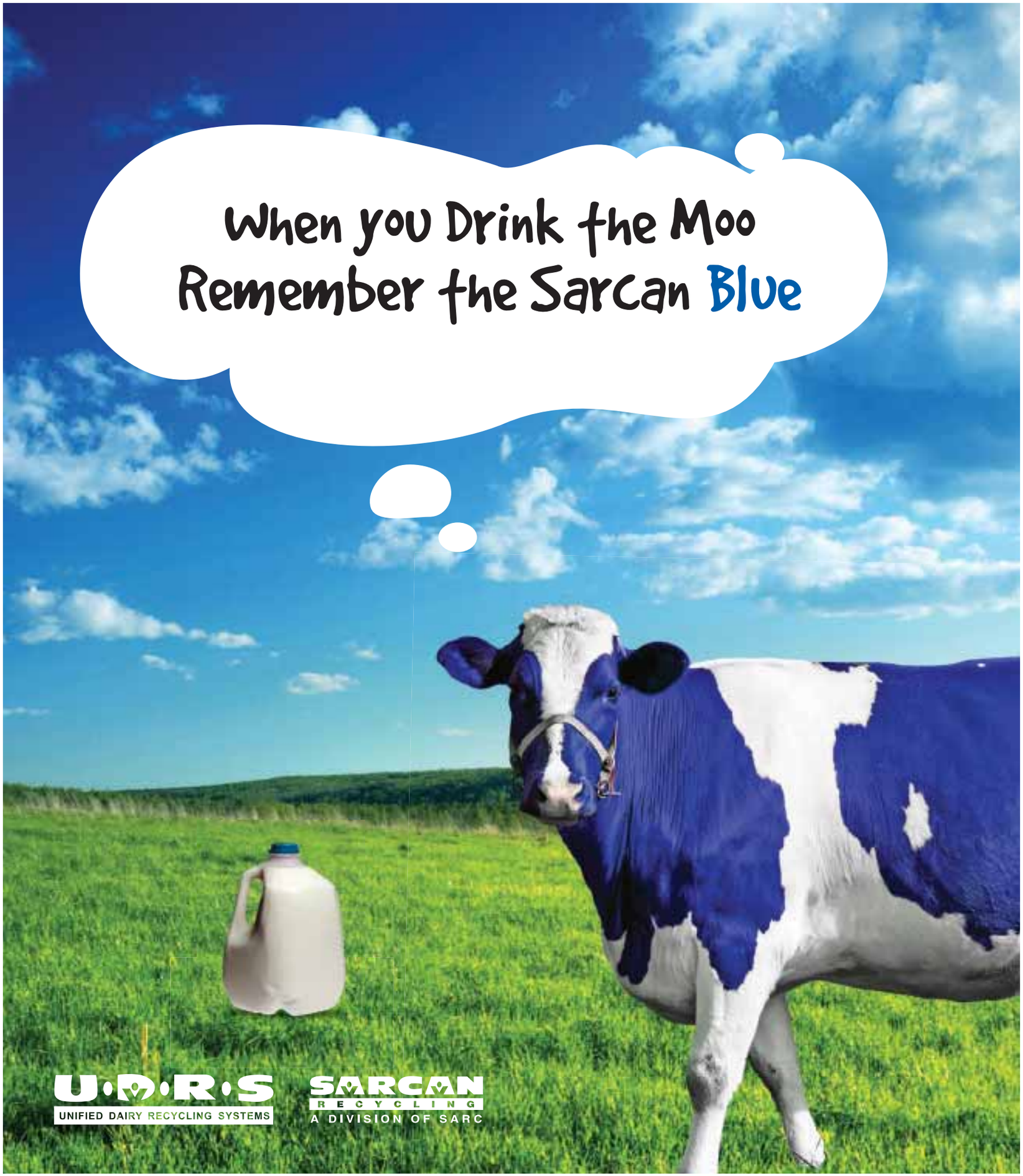
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Remember the Sarcan Blue
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SARCAN
RECYCLING
A DIVISION OF SARC